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RECEIVED
MANAGEMENT CORP.
PATENT SECTION

JAN 14 1993

8th January 1993

NOTED

Our ref: PAS/CS/33442
Your ref: PM 1522

Dear Charles,

Taiwanese Patent Application No. 81104747
Your ref: PM 1522 - Our file: 33442

Following our further discussions I now attach a complete set of claims which I propose to send to Taiwan today and also to use in Bulgaria (if it is not already too late).

As compared with my previous draft the new claim 1 refers to "contacting" the tobacco with "saturated" carbon dioxide gas to effect impregnation. It recites that cooling can be before or during contact and claim 6 specifically deals with pre-cooling while claims 2 to 5 are concerned with cooling at intermediate pressure. The revised claim also omits the amount of carbon dioxide condensed which now appears in claim 11.

As a result of my better understanding of the details of the invention the subsidiary claims have been re-arranged and revised into a more logical format. As regards the intermediate pressure at which cooling is effected I note that Example 1 at page 27, line 9, refers to 300 psig and at page 28, lines 15 to 16, refers to 250 to 300 psig. Example 2 at page 28, line 32, has 185 psig. Page 11, line 17, has 153 psig. There does not seem to be any reference to a particular range other than 300 to 550 psig so I have adopted the formula "below 550 psig". I have omitted from the subsidiary claims specific reference to the fact that the tobacco is cooled to the saturation temperature of the carbon dioxide gas which is used or that the gas is in the saturated condition. I am not sure how much specific reference there is to this in the description though of course it is apparent in Figure 1. I also think that it may not be necessary in order to achieve the required condensation though as a practical matter it may be the most convenient way of controlling the process.

The new claims 13 to 18 correspond quite closely with the previous claims but claim 19 of the previous set is now claim 12.

R&G

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Claim 19 of the new set is based on your revised claim of 6th January. I think the only ~~substantive~~^{basic} amendment is deletion of "saturated" in line 4 of your claim. The new claims 20 to 24 specify the ranges of various parameters because I rather expect that the Taiwanese Examiner will insist on all these figures being in the principal claim.

I look forward to hearing from you later in the day but hope that any changes will now be fairly minor.

Yours sincerely,



P.A. Smith

Encs:
Claims

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